

DEMOCRACY SERIES



ENJOYING OUR LAND

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Enjoying Our Land



DEMOCRACY SERIES

PRUDENCE CUTRIGHT • W. W. CHARTERS • EDITORS

Enjoying Our Land

MAYBELL G. BUSH

State Supervisor of Elementary Schools, Madison, Wisconsin

WITH PICTURES BY ARTHUR JAMESON

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EDITORS' PREFACE FOR TEACHERS

A democracy thrives upon criticism. When a free people, alert to change, studies its institutions to make them serve more richly the aspirations of the common man, it necessarily discusses the points at which improvements seem to be needed. On the public forum and in the national press interested citizens concentrate their attention upon defects in the democratic pattern to the extent that a Martian observer might draw the conclusion that, in the opinion of its followers, democracy is a failure.

What the observer does not understand is that the public critics accept the fundamental principles of democracy so completely that they do not argue about them. The purpose of public criticism is to improve the ways and means of carrying out these fundamental principles and not to destroy them.

However, children in a democracy, who keenly follow the thinking of their elders and so encounter a barrage of criticism of our institutions — that we do not have *complete* freedom of the press, *full* freedom of speech, or *invariable* rights of assembly — may also, like the foreigner, gain the impression that we do not believe in these rights *in any degree*.

It is important, therefore, in the long view of educational statesmanship that we take care to emphasize with children in constructive fashion the characteristics of democracy which belong to our heritage and which, if not emphasized, may be accepted with indifference and treated with negligence. This indifference and ignorance will make our children easy victims of minority groups who assail the realistic weaknesses of our

democratic institutions and exalt the idealistic virtues of other ways of life which are glamorous because they are distant.

It is essential in such a view that we teach our children to love and respect the democratic rights which our forebears have won and that we develop in the children an active determination to protect and continue to perfect our ways of expressing these democratic ideals. The price we pay for freedom is perpetual responsibility to practice the laws of democracy diligently and to work assiduously for their improvement.

To this end the Democracy Series is offered as a contribution. The essential characteristics of democracy have been assembled from the Declaration of Independence, the Constitution of the United States, including the Bill of Rights, and the literature on democracy. The stories of those dramatic occasions upon which these characteristics were fought for in the past have been included in the texts. The concrete use of the principles of democracy by children in their intimate school and family life has been described in narrative and exposition. Opportunities for the discussion and practice of the democratic way of life are suggested for the children in convenient form beginning with the primary grades. Flag-waving and chauvinism have been avoided. Care has been taken to develop the idea that democracy is a growing rather than a static ideal and that every citizen has a responsibility for seeing that the ideal of democracy works more fully, more completely, and more consistently from generation to generation.

More specifically the authors of the Democracy Series use the following characteristics to describe the ideals and procedures of democracy.

1. Respect for the dignity and worth of the individual human personality.
2. Open opportunity for the individual.
3. Economic and social security.

4. The search for truth.
5. Free discussion; freedom of speech; freedom of the press.
6. Universal education.
7. The rule of the majority; the rights of the minority; the honest ballot.
8. Justice for the common man; trial by jury; arbitration of disputes; orderly legal processes; freedom from search and seizure; right to petition.
9. Freedom of religion.
10. Respect for the rights of private property.
11. The practice of the fundamental social virtues.
12. The responsibility of the individual to participate in the duties of democracy.

"Democracy is a way of life and social organization which above all others is sensitive to the dignity and worth of the individual human personality, affirming the fundamental moral and political equality of all men and recognizing no barriers of race, religion, or circumstance." (General Report of the Seminar on "What Is Democracy?" Congress on Education for Democracy, August, 1939.)

January, 1940

P. C.
W. W. C.

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The Children's Garden

"Oh, here he comes now!" said Jean.

"We were afraid that we should have to go to bed before you came home," said John.

Mrs. Gray laughed and said, "The children do want to ask you about something."

Mr. Gray sat down. John and Jean ran to him.

John began, "Our teachers want us to find out if we may have a small garden in our back yard."

"Do you want to do some real work in your garden every day?" asked Mr. Gray.

"Yes! Yes!" cried Jean and John.

"What do you think about this, Mother?" asked Mr. Gray.

"I think we can let them have a piece of ground near the back fence," said Mrs. Gray.

"I think so too," said Mr. Gray. "Tomorrow we will talk more about your garden."

"Father, please will you and Mother both help us plan our garden?" asked Jean.

"Yes, Jean," said Father, "we will."

On the next evening Mr. Gray, Mrs. Gray, and the children began to make the plan for their garden.

"Are all the children in school going to have gardens?" asked Mrs. Gray.

"No, only those who want gardens need to have them," said Jean.

"Does each one who wants a garden have a place for one?" asked Mr. Gray.



"I think so," said John, "because there are two children for each garden. If one of them has the ground, the other one is to buy the seeds."

"Which of you will buy the seeds?" said Father, with a twinkle in his eyes.

Jean said, "We are going to work for Mother to get the money for our seeds."

"What about Mrs. Brown's two boys?" asked Mother. "Will they have a garden?"

John said, "They did not think they could buy any seeds, but they said they should like to help any of us."

"Mother, may we give the boys some of our seeds?" asked Jean.

"Yes," said Mother, "if Mrs. Brown and the boys want a garden."

Father said, "Mrs. Brown will be here tomorrow. You can ask her about it."

The next day Jean and John told Mrs. Brown about their garden. She said her boys might have a garden too if they could get the seeds.

Then Jean and John let Jim and Charlie Brown see the plan for their garden.

Mr. Gray had a man come to plow the ground for both gardens.



It told on the packages of seed just how to put them in the ground.

Soon little plants began to come up.

Weeds came up too, and there was much work for Jean and John.

One day Jean pulled weeds for an hour. She came into the house and said, "I think farmers must work very hard."

Mrs. Brown, who had come to help Mrs. Gray, said, "That is what my boys think too, Jean. But they keep the weeds pulled. They have a fine garden. We thank you all for the seeds and for plowing the ground for us."

"You do so many kind things for our family that we were glad to do something for you," said Mrs. Gray.

Things to Do

1. Tell some of the things you can do to help other people.

2. Tell some of the things that you and your family plan and then all do together.

3. Name the things you can do to help in your home.

4. Talk about how to take better care of your own things.

5. Tell how we should use things that are not our own.

6. Tell why we should do our work first and then play.

7. Tell why work is good for girls and boys.

8. Tell all the things that your mother does for you every day.



Play Places for All

Mr. Gray and Mr. White wanted to catch some fish before breakfast and then cook and eat them out of doors.

Mrs. Gray and the children wanted to see how many spring birds they could name.

They all got up before it was light. It took them about an hour to drive to the river in Mr. White's car.

"Mother, does the man who let us have the boats own this river?" asked Jean.

"No," said Mrs. Gray, "that man just owns the boats. Father gave him some money for our use of the two boats.

"The river here and the land on each side of it belong to us and to all of the people. It is a beautiful place where we can come to rest. We can come here to fish. We can stay here when it is very hot in the city."



"Who takes care of it?" asked John.

Mrs. Gray said, "Men are at work here all of the time. They take care of the lodges in winter. In the spring and summer they keep the place clean and beautiful.

"There are other things that we all own and use together. Each year we give some of our money to help pay for things we use together. Father will tell you more about this."

"I shall ask him about it," said John.

Mrs. Gray said, "We shall turn back now. Can you tell Father the names of ten spring birds that you have seen today?"

"I think I can," said Jean.

"I can," said John. "I can tell more about birds at school now."

"Oh, look, look!" said Jean. "I see Father and Mr. White!"

They all looked, and then John said, "I am glad there is a place like this where we can come. This is fun."

Mrs. Gray pulled the boat toward the sandy river bank. The children climbed out.

"Get ready for the best fish breakfast you have ever had, Mrs. Gray," said Mr. White.

"We are all ready," said Mrs. Gray.



"Do all of the people who come here catch fish?" asked John.

"Each one of us pays for his right to fish," said Mr. Gray. "That is how they get the money for the men who help us to have fish like these. These men keep baby fish and feed them until they can live and grow in rivers. That is why there are so many fine fish here for us to catch."



"I see," said John. "This is another of the things we all do together. A little money from each of us helps all of the fishermen. Will you tell us more about this some day?"

"Yes," said Mr. Gray, "I will."

Mr. White said, "John, why don't you ask your teacher to let you talk about this at school?"

John said, "I shall do that today."

That night John came home from school with some Things to Do. Can you do them too?

1. Name all the things you can that people own and use together.
2. Find out how we pay for the things we own and use together.
3. Tell why it helps us to have some things that belong to all of us.



Jean's Radio Talk

One day Jean's teacher said, "You have been asked to tell people over the radio something about the work we do at school.

"You will have ten minutes to talk. There is much that you could tell. What do you think we should do?"

Each child had something to say. Then the teacher said, "We shall all have to work together and follow one plan."



For a while it did not look as if they could make a plan that all of the children liked.

At last one boy said, "I think it would be nice to give some short talks. We could talk about the things that our city does for us."

"That would be fine," said a girl.

"How many think the people would like some of those talks?" asked the teacher.

"I don't think they would," said a boy.

The children and the teacher talked together. They talked about other things they could do in ten minutes.

The more the children thought about other things they might do, the more they liked the first plan.

Soon the teacher said, "All of those who now think we should give some of our short talks please stand."

Most of the children stood at once. A few got up a little later. The little boy who did not like this plan said, "I will help if the others want to give short talks."

"Thank you, children," said the teacher. "Now all of us can work together to get ready for our talks. How many can we have in ten minutes? You know we must all talk slowly."

The children thought they could have four talks. They had liked Jean's talk about "How Our Stores Help Us" when she had given it for them.

A little boy said, "I think we should have Jean's talk, for there are stores almost everywhere. The people who own them and who work in them will like that talk."

The teacher asked those who wanted Jean to give one of the four talks to stand.

They all stood and Jean was very happy.





It was a great day for Jean's grade. The teacher and four children were going to the radio station. The rest of the children were going to stay in their room at school.

They would listen to the talks and read some stories the teacher left for them.

On their way to the radio station Jean said, "Just think, now we are going to talk to many, many people. Some of them live here and some live miles and miles away."

At home that evening Mr. Gray said, "Jean, I liked your talk and the other talks very much.

"We should all know more about our schools. I am glad our station gave the time for the teachers and children to tell us about their work."

John said, "Our grade is going to give something over the radio next week too. We each put down on paper what we should like to do. Two children looked at the papers. They told us what most of the children wanted to do.

"Then we all went to work to get ready. We had said we would do what the most of the children liked best. I think you will like what we give."

"I am sure I shall," said Mr. Gray.

Things to Do

1. Plan and give the talk that you think Jean gave on "How Our Stores Help Us."

2. Plan and give the talks you think the other three children gave on "How Our City Helps Us."

3. Think of some talks you could give about those who help you.

4. Tell some ways in which your school helps you.

5. Tell why we often need to give up doing what we want to do.

6. Tell about some time when you did something just because the other children wanted to do it.

7. Give a little talk about why we need to work together.



May We Have a Picnic?

"Good morning, children. Do you want something?" asked Miss Lewis.

John said, "Miss Lewis, we want to have a picnic. May we?"

"Do all of the children want a picnic?" asked Miss Lewis.

"Yes, we think they all do," said John.

"Then we shall see what we can do about it," said Miss Lewis.

As soon as their school began each morning, Miss Lewis and the children always had a talk. Then they would plan their work for that day.

This morning was a good time to talk about a picnic. So Miss Lewis said, "John, will you tell us what kind of picnic you would like to have?"

John said, "We should like to go to the river where there are so many birds. It is a good place to play.

"We think that we can get cars enough to take us all."

The children began to clap their hands.

Miss Lewis laughed and said; "Have you asked our principal if we may go? You see going on a picnic is not like our other school work."

"Oh, we thought you could take us, Miss Lewis," said a boy. "We did not ask our principal."

"No," said Miss Lewis, "not until we have the right to go on a picnic. We shall have to ask Mr. White before we can have a picnic."

"Would you like to send a letter to Mr. White? You must ask him if you may have a picnic. You may each put your name at the end of the letter."

"May we do that now?" asked John.

"Yes, and you may take the letter to Mr. White because he lives near you," said Miss Lewis.

The children got their letter ready. Then they did their other school work. When John went home to lunch, he took the letter to Mr. White.



Two days later Mr. White came to John's room. He asked Miss Lewis if he might talk to the children.

Mr. White said, "Boys and girls, you may have a picnic. I am glad you have thought about a place to go.

"I think the river is too far away. I know of another good place. We shall ask for cars to take you to some fine picnic grounds. Will that be all right?"

"Yes, yes!" said the children.

Miss Lewis said, "Thank you, Mr. White."

One of the boys said, "Mr. White, will you please come to our picnic?"

"I will if I can," he said.

Miss Lewis said, "We must plan our picnic tomorrow. Ask your parents tonight if you may go."

The next day the children and the teacher made their plans. Each one had something to do for the picnic.

John was asked to take the money for the ice cream. He was to buy it from a man who made good ice cream.

Mrs. Gray said she should be glad to take some children to the picnic grounds in her car.

Other fathers and mothers were glad to help with their cars.



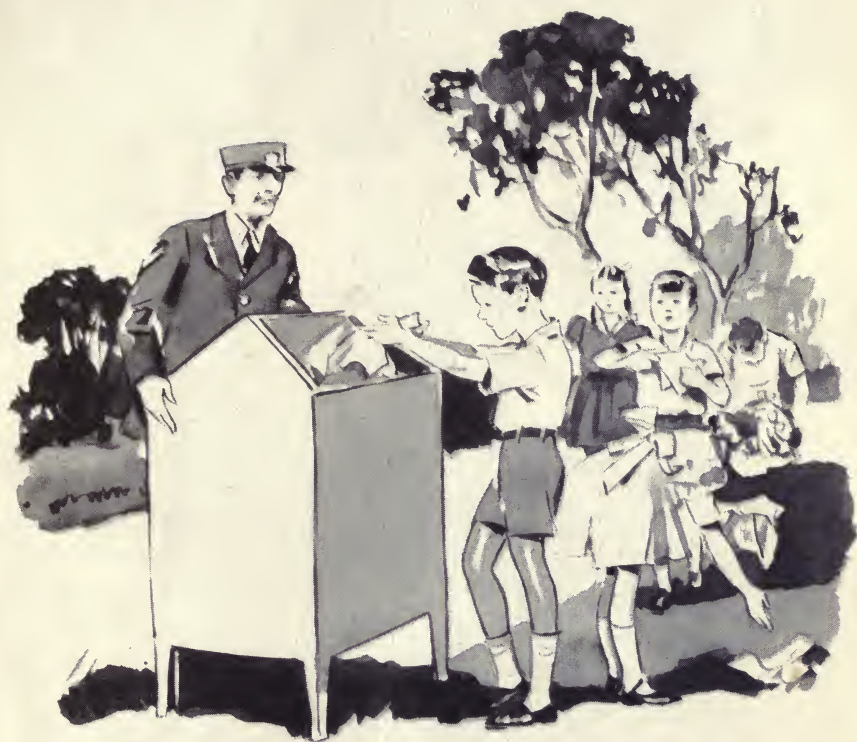
At last the day came. The sun was bright, and there was almost no wind.

What fun they all had! But the picnic dinner was the best of all.

After they had eaten, Miss Lewis asked the children to help clean up the grounds.

When this was all done, the keeper of the picnic grounds said, "I thank you, boys and girls. Come again any time you wish."

Then Miss Lewis said, "When people all work together, they can do many fine things."







Father's Story

Jean and John went to their store one evening to walk home with their father. He told them he had a surprise for them and for Mother.

"Mother! Mother! Father has a surprise for us," cried Jean, as they went into the house.

They all sat down, and Mr. Gray began his story.

"This afternoon my Uncle John came to see me. He and Auntie Jane have just come back from the South.

"He says that we need a vacation, Mother. I know it is five years since we bought the store from him and you have done so much to help in it.

"I have never thought I could get away for a vacation, but listen to this.

"Uncle John wants to take my place in the store so that we may go. He says he feels very well. He says that he can look after the store just as he used to when it was his. He thinks he should like to do it.

"Now comes the big surprise! He says we may take his new trailer.

"Uncle John says that the trailer is big enough for the four of us."

Jean and John could not keep still after that. They jumped up and down. They gave their father and mother each a soft pat. They both began to talk.

Then Mr. Gray said, "Listen again, children. Uncle John and Auntie Jane would like to stay here in our house while we use their trailer."

All at once Jean said, "We can't go. We must take care of our garden."



"That is right," said John. "You see, Father, some day in the summer some children will come to see our garden.

"They are the boys and girls who had the best gardens last year. We want to have one of the best ones this year. If we go away and leave our garden, our work will be for nothing."

"Maybe Uncle John would take care of it for us," said Jean.

Mr. Gray said, "No, Jean. We must not ask Uncle John to do that."

Mrs. Gray said, "Maybe you can get Jim and Charlie Brown to take care of your garden. You might ask Mr. White about it first."

"I do not think the other children would like that," said John.

Mr. Gray said, "John, it will be some time before you go away. Maybe Mr. White would have the gardens looked at before you and Jean go on your vacation. You might ask him."

"Yes," said John, "we can ask for that. I think the other boys and girls would just as soon do it that way."

"We shall ask Mr. White tomorrow," said Jean.



Soon the boys and girls all knew that Jean and John were going away as soon as school was out.

The children were glad to get their gardens ready to be looked at before Jean and John left.

Jim and Charlie Brown had said that they would take care of Jean's and John's garden for them.

One evening Mrs. Gray said, "I never thought before how kind some people can be.

"Uncle John and Auntie Jane have been so good to us. The children have been so kind to our children. Our friends help us in so many ways."

"Yes," said Jean, "I think that we should think often about all the kind things that our friends do for us."



Where Shall We Go?

"Well, where are you going on your vacation?" asked Mr. Gray with a laugh.

"I don't know. There are so many places I have always wanted to go," said Mrs. Gray.

"I want to go where I can see real cowboys and Indians," said John.

"I want to go to see Uncle Charlie," said Jean.

"We can please you both," said Father, "for there are cowboys and Indians near Uncle Charlie's home. Shall we go to see Uncle Charlie first?"

Mrs. Gray looked very happy because Uncle Charlie was her brother and she had not seen him for three years.

"Is it too far from there to go to see your mother?" asked Mrs. Gray. "She has asked us many times to come there in the summer."

Mr. Gray thought a minute and said, "It would take us more than a week to go from Uncle Charlie's to your grandmother's. But there is much to see on the way."

"Our country must be very big," said John.

Mr. Gray said, "It is a big country."

"You need to rest, Father," said Mrs. Gray. "I think we should stay at some place where you can fish if you want to."

"Oh, good!" said John. "I shall like that. May we learn to swim too?"

Mr. Gray said, "Do you think that Frank Green would help us find a place near where he lives?"

"I am sure he will. Let us send a letter by air mail," said Mrs. Gray.

Mr. Gray went on, "Now, children, are there some other places you want to go?"

"Could we go to see a big airport?" asked Jean.

"Yes, we can do that," said Mr. Gray.

"Can we see big boats?" asked John.

"Maybe we can," said Mr. Gray.



Jean said, "Uncle John told me about a place he and Auntie went. They saw cotton fields. May we go there?"

Mr. Gray said, "Mother, what do you think about that?"

Mrs. Gray said, "There are many fine places to stay in our country. We have to pay only a little for our use of them. With the money we have for our vacation, we can go to a good many places."

"Yes," said Mr. Gray, "in our country people can have fine vacations even if they do not have much money. I think we can take you to see cotton, Jean."

Mrs. Gray said, "It is time to go to bed, children. Will it be all right if Father and I plan the rest of our vacation?"

"Shall we tell you all about it, or shall we keep some things for little surprises?" asked Mr. Gray.

"Oh, it will be fun to have some surprises along the way," said the children.





Give and Take

There were many things to do before the Gray family could go on their vacation.

The children always found some work to do in their garden. They kept the ground soft near the roots of the plants. They pulled weeds. When there was not enough rain, they put water on their garden.

Mr. and Mrs. Gray thought of many things that had to be done.

Mr. Gray and Uncle John had talks almost every day about the store. Uncle John wanted to do things the way Mr. Gray would like to have them done.

Mrs. Gray had to get clothes ready for Jean and John. She had to get Mr. Gray's clothes and her own ready.

Then she had to get the house ready for Uncle John and Auntie Jane.

There were many other things to do to make their vacation a happy time for each one of the family. One of these was to plan just where they thought they would stay each night. Then they could get news from home at almost any time.

One day Jean said, "Father, when may I go to see Uncle John's trailer?"

John said, "It is like a little house."

Mrs. Gray said, "Jean, would you like to go with me this afternoon to see the trailer?"

"May I go too?" asked John.

"No," said Mrs. Gray, "you have seen it. It will help me if you will stay at home to look after things."

"I will, Mother," said John.





When Mrs. Gray and Jean came home, John looked very sad.

"What is this all about, John?" asked Mrs. Gray. "Are you hurt?"

Then John told them that he and Frisky were out in the yard when Mrs. Hill's cat came through the fence.

Frisky ran after the cat, and they both ran through the garden. They ran right over the carrots.

"That is too bad," said Mrs. Gray.

"That mean old cat!" cried Jean. "Why should she come into our yard? Our carrots are the best things we have."

"Now wait a minute, Jean," said Mrs. Gray. "Does Frisky ever go in Mrs. Hill's yard?"

"Yes, I know he does," said Jean.

Mrs. Gray went on, "Think what Frisky did when Mrs. Hill's sisters came one day. He barked and jumped upon them with his dirty paws.

"Mrs. Hill was very nice about it. Now let us look at your garden."

The carrots looked bad but they had many leaves. The children cut off some. They put the rest of the leaves back in place. They put more dirt around the roots of the carrots.

"Carrots take a long time to grow," said Mrs. Gray. "They are all right."

"I don't care," said Jean. "I think it is too bad. I never did like that cat. He bites and scratches too."

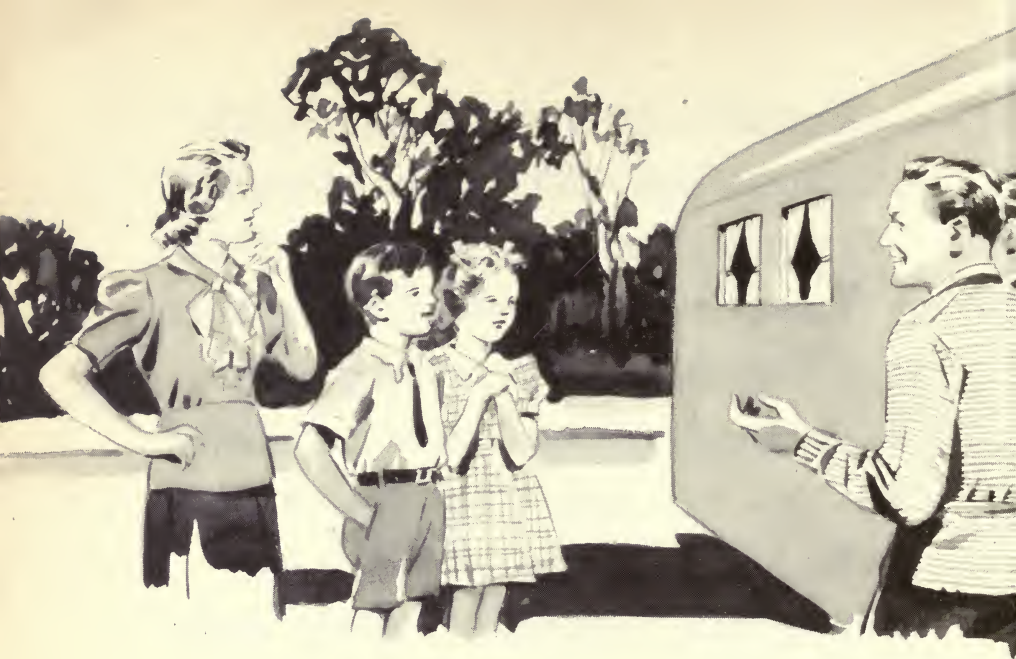
"That may all be," said Mrs. Gray, "but let us think more about what Frisky did. He ran after the cat."

Then Jean laughed. "I think I know now what my teacher means when she says I must learn to give and take."

"I am glad your teacher helps you to do that," said Mrs. Gray. "The better we know how to give and take, the more friends we shall have."

"Now shall we go in and get dinner? Father will be here soon."

Jean said, "I wish Uncle John would send the trailer over here."



While Mrs. Gray and the children were getting dinner, they heard a car drive into the yard. John looked out of the window.

"Mother! Jean! Look! Look!" he cried.

There it was — their little home for the summer. What a happy family sat down to dinner that evening!

The next day John said, "Mother, I did not think work could be so much fun. I like to help you put things in the trailer."

"Work is fun," said Mrs. Gray, "when we plan it and do it the best we can. Even hard work can be fun."

Just then Jean came into the trailer. "Where is Frisky going to sleep?" she asked.

Mrs. Gray said, "Jean, do you think Frisky should go with us? Would he be happy?"

"I never thought of that," said Jean. "If he barked at night, other people would not like that. Frisky must stay with Uncle and Auntie."

"Yes, I do not think Frisky would like to leave his home," said Mrs. Gray.



The last day of school for Jean and John came on Flag Day. Their teachers had told them many things about our flag.

They had put a flag in the trailer so that they would think about what it means while they were on their vacation.

"That was beautiful," they said as they left the school grounds.

That night at dinner Mrs. Gray said, "I have a surprise for you children."

"What is it? What is it?" they cried.

"Today, while you were at the store, four children came to look at your garden. I heard them say 'This is a fine garden.'"

"Now it will be all right for Jim and Charlie to take care of it," said Jean.

Frisky barked and ran to the door.

"Here we are!" said Uncle John.

"Come in! Come right in!" said Mr. Gray.

"Now it looks as if the Gray family are ready for their vacation. It has been real fun to get ready," said Mrs. Gray with a happy look.

Things to Do

1. Tell about all the picnic places you can that belong to all of the people.

2. Tell about other beautiful places that you can go to and use if you pay just a little money.

3. Tell why you think that you should learn to "give and take."

4. Tell some of the ways in which you give and take.

5. Learn to salute the flag just as you should do it.

6. Tell why Jean and John thought that their work was fun.

7. Tell about the times when work has been fun for you.

8. When you have hard work to do, think of others who work hard too.







A Long Day

The children were up very early. They had said good-by to Mrs. Brown and the boys.

Now they were over at Mrs. Hill's to tell her good-by.

"Good-by, Jean! Good-by, John!" she said. "Here is a little present for you both."

"We thank you so much," said the children.

At last the packages were all put into the car and trailer.

Auntie Jane had the names of the places where they would call for their mail.

Uncle John said, "Let us hear from some of you every day."

Mrs. Gray said, "Auntie Jane, do not work too hard. Mrs. Brown will help you when you need her."

"I never can thank you enough for this, Uncle John," said Mr. Gray. "You do not know what it means to leave the store in your care."

Uncle John said, "That is all right."

"Here we go!" said Mr. Gray.

"Good-by, children!" said Auntie Jane.

"Good-by!" said Jean and John.



In a little while the Grays were out in the country.

"See this fine farm!" said Mrs. Gray.

"Our farmers have had hard times for three years," said Mr. Gray.

"How is that?" asked Mrs. Gray.

"Too little rain, or hot winds, or too much rain," said Mr. Gray.

"Their fields look good now, and, if the weather is right for them, the farmers should do well this year."

Mrs. Gray said, "The fields are so clean. They show that the farmers here work hard all of the time."

Jean said, "We thought it was hard work to take care of our garden. What should we do if we had a farm?"

John said, "Our teacher told us that farmers work very hard. She said that city people should think more about the work the farmers do. They work to give us the things we need to eat."

"So they do," said Mr. Gray. "I am always glad when the farmers have a good year. Many farmers buy things at our store. That helps us. Some of my best store friends are farmers."

"When they have a bad year, they do not have much money. Then they cannot buy much at any store."

"I think they have many schools here," said Jean. "Some are like little houses."

Mr. Gray laughed. "You never went to a country school, children. Your mother and I both went to little schools like those we see here.

"In the country the big boys and girls and the little children all go to the same school.

"They have one teacher who teaches all the grades. The children work at their seats much of the time.

"The children all take their dinners to school. They have good times.

"We have many of those little schools so that boys and girls everywhere can go to school. All boys and girls must go to school in our country."

The Grays ate a picnic lunch by the side of the road. As they came near to a city, Jean saw the airport.

"Oh, look!" she said, "I have my wish. I wanted to see an airport."

"We must not stop here now," said Mr. Gray. "We shall see many other airports."

"What are those tall things?" asked John. "They look very much like what we see on many farms."

"We shall find out later on," said Mrs. Gray. "Oh, here is our place to stay tonight."





"Now for a good hot dinner!" said Mr. Gray. "I am hungry."

Mrs. Gray asked him to bring some water. Jean and John helped her too.

Soon they all sat down to dinner in their trailer house. How good the food was!

"I am going to bed early," said John. "This has been a long day."

As soon as the after-dinner work was done, they all went to bed.



The next morning the children were up early. They could see more of those tall things, and they wanted to learn more about them.

The family started very early because it was going to be a hot day.

"Why can we not stay here just a little while?" said Jean. "There is so much to see around here."

"There is more to see where we are going, Jean," said Mrs. Gray.

Things to Do

1. Tell why we like to have friends "see us off" when we go away.

2. Find out more about how city people can help farmers.

3. Find out more ways that farmers help city people.

4. Name all the things you can that the farmers help us to have.

5. Tell why all the children in our country should have to go to school.

6. Tell why we need good schools all over our country.

7. Tell why the side of the road may not be a good place for a picnic.

8. Tell how you make others happy.

9. Tell why we should be glad when other people are happy.



Much to See

"When shall we come to another big city, Father?" asked Jean as they rode along.

"We shall not see any big city today, Jean," said Mr. Gray. "But we shall see many more farms and pasture lands.

"I see a herder now. I see his dog too. He works as hard as the man does, I am sure."

Mrs. Gray said, "When I see these large farms and pastures, it makes me love the country more and more. Maybe some day we can have a small farm of our own."

Mr. Gray said, "I am glad you feel that way, Mother. I should like to have a little farm some time."

"We both lived in the country, and I want Jean and John to have some of the same good times that we used to have."

"Father, could we please stop near one of these farms today?" asked John.

"What do you say, Mother?" asked Mr. Gray.

"I should like to do so if some farmer will let us," said Mrs. Gray.

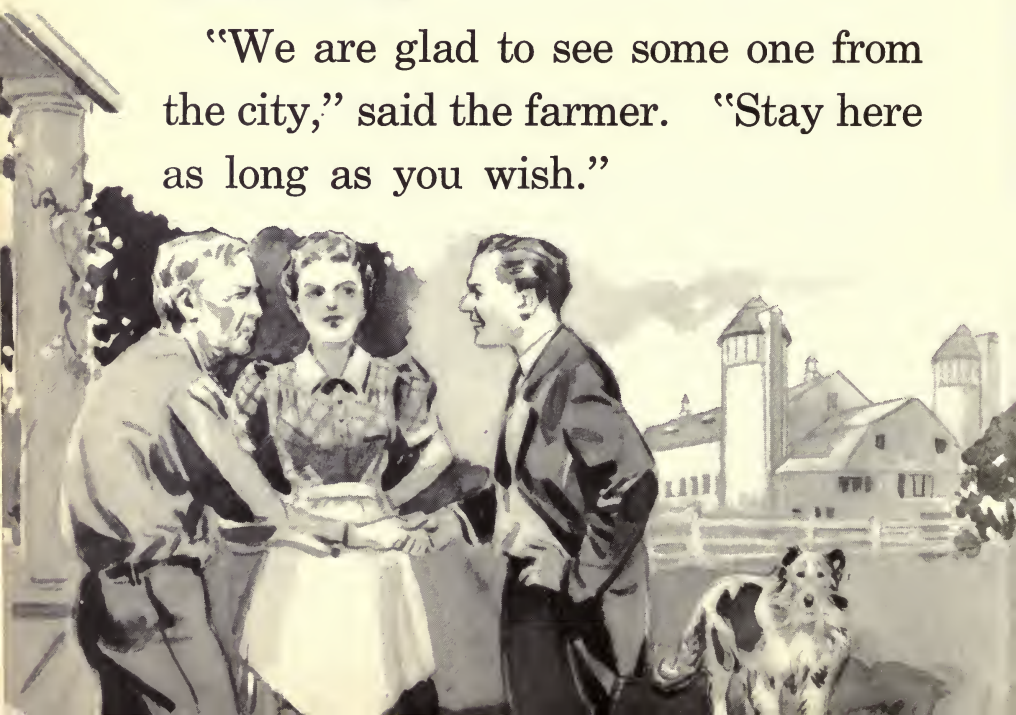
"We shall ask here," said Mr. Gray.

Mr. Gray told the farmer and his wife that he would like to stop near their house. He wanted the children to learn more about how farmers do their work.

"To be sure you may," said the farmer.

"Dinner is just ready," said the farmer's wife. "I'll set some more places and you come in and eat with us this time."

"We are glad to see some one from the city," said the farmer. "Stay here as long as you wish."





All too soon it was time to go on, for they wanted to hear from home.

"I hope we shall see you all again some time," said Mr. Gray. "I feel that we have found some real friends."

"I thank you for all you have done for the children," said Mrs. Gray.

"Build a trailer and come to see us next year," said Mr. Gray.

"Maybe we shall," said the farmer. "I think my boy and I could build one."

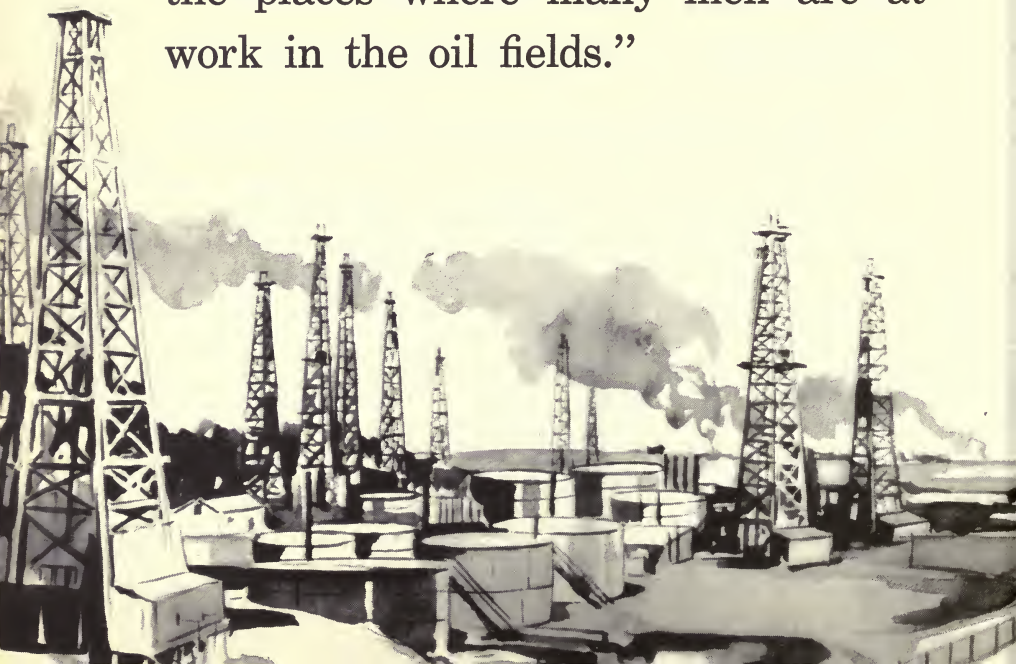
In the afternoon the Grays came to a city. "This will be a good place to find out what those tall things are that you have asked about, John," said Mr. Gray.

"I can smell oil," said John.

"I can smell gas," said Jean.

"Yes," said Mr. Gray. "Oil and gas come out of the ground in a good many places in our country.

"We have been very near some of the places where many men are at work in the oil fields."



"We shall stay here tonight. In the morning we shall find out all we can about gas and oil."

Mrs. Gray said, "We get mail here, too. It will be good to hear from home."

The family had a happy time with their letters. Then they all went to bed very early to get a good rest.

The next morning they went to see the oil wells. As they left the city, Mrs. Gray said, "Think of all it means to us to have so much gas and oil to use."

"Yes," said Mr. Gray, "but we must use it with care. Then there will be enough for many years to come."

Jean said, "Our teacher told us we should use all that we have with care."

That afternoon John asked, "How far is it from here to Uncle Charlie's?"

"We should get there tomorrow afternoon," said Mr. Gray.

That night the family thought they might stay by the side of the road, for they saw very few homes. But soon they came to a big sheep ranch, and the children wanted to stay there.

The herder was glad to have them stay.

After breakfast the next morning they said good-by and drove away.



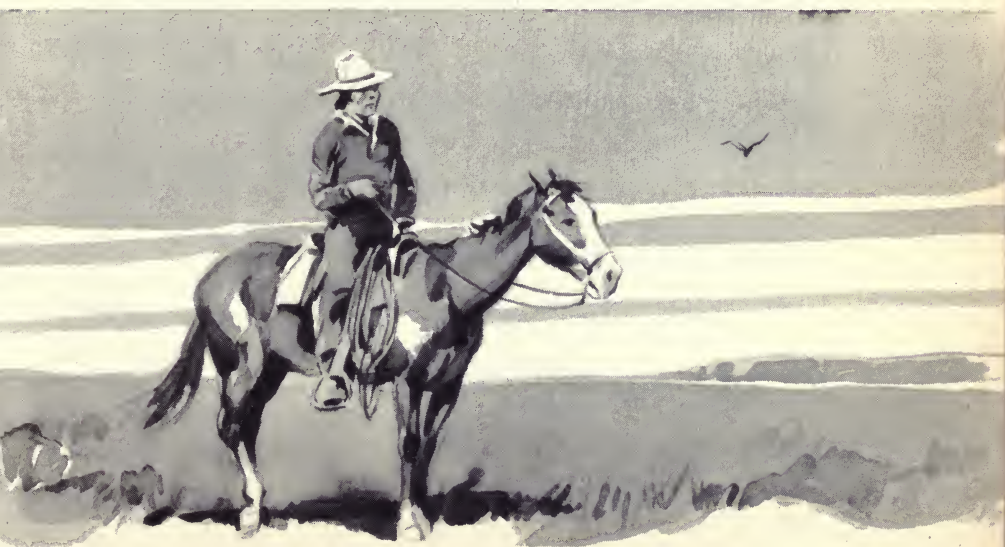
"Is that the kind of place that our Uncle Charlie lives in?" asked Jean.

Mrs. Gray laughed. "It is not like our home, is it, Jean? Our country is so big that there are many kinds of land in it and many kinds of people too."

"Are we going to see many Indians now?" asked John.

"Yes," said Mrs. Gray, "and maybe some cowboys too."

"Now I get my wish," said John.





Uncle Charlie lived at a place called The Lodge.

“You look well and happy, Charlie,” said Mrs. Gray. “Do you feel as well as you look?”

“Yes,” said her brother. “I am as good as new now. Is it not fine that we have so many places in our country where the fresh air and warm sunshine make sick people well again?”

“I shall be coming back home soon to take up my old work.”

"Why don't you come with us now?" asked John. "You may have my bed in the trailer. I'll sleep in the car."

"I work here, John," said Uncle Charlie. "I said I would stay through the summer. So I must do that."

Mr. Gray said, "Charlie, can you get some one to do your work for two or three days and come with us? You can come back on the train."

"Maybe I can," said Uncle Charlie. "Don't you want to hear from home?"

He pulled their letters out of his pocket.

There was a letter to Jean and John from Mr. White.

"Father! Mother!" John cried out, "Mr. White says Jean and I had one of the four best gardens."

It was hard to get the children back to the trailer after that. Uncle Charlie said he would come and eat breakfast with them in the morning.

The next morning Uncle Charlie told them he could leave with them that afternoon.

Before they left, they went to see a beautiful old church. "That church is as old as the city," said Uncle Charlie. "At first most of the people went to one church. They were like one big family. Now this is a city. We have many churches."

John said, "We have seen many churches in the country and in each city. Some are large and some small."

"Yes," said his uncle, "in our land people go to church as they wish."



There was so much to see here that the Grays said they would all come back again some day.

"We must go on now," said Mr. Gray.

All that day they came nearer to the high hills. Then in the afternoon they saw mountains so high that there was snow on their tops.

Uncle Charlie told them how the snow gave the people in many places the water they used.

It was much fun to get ready for dinner that night. Uncle Charlie had never lived in a trailer house before.

Soon a happy family were all ready for bed. John had a good bed in the back seat of the car.

The car was close to the door of the trailer. The keeper of the place said he would stay near them.

"That is very kind of you," said John. "I know I am well taken care of. Good night to everybody."







More to See and Learn

On this fine morning the Grays and Uncle Charlie started early.

"Here we get gold, silver, and other things out of the ground," said Uncle Charlie. "We can have many things we want in our country because we have so much to use to make things."

"Yes," said Mr. Gray, "we do not stop often enough to think how very well off we are."



"Are there places like this all over our country?" asked Jean.

"We have nothing else like this. But there are beautiful things to see almost everywhere in our country," said her uncle.

"How are we going to get up to the top of that mountain, Uncle Charlie?" asked Jean.

"There is a fine road all the way up," said her uncle. "We are going to drive to the top. You may be above the clouds when we get there."





"I did not think I would ever be above the clouds," said Jean. "They seem so high when I am at home."

"We must go down now," said Uncle Charlie. "I will be just in time to take the train back to my work."

On the way down the mountain they all talked together.

Uncle Charlie told them about his going to school last summer. "I liked it very much," he said.

"Do men go to school out here?" asked John.

Uncle Charlie laughed. "Men and women can go to school in many places in our country, John.

"We have great schools out here just as you have at home. Men and women from all over our country and from other lands come to our schools.

"Teachers go to school in the summer while you have vacation. Other people need to go to school to learn better ways to do their work. We can always learn more.

"All of the people help to pay for schools so that boys and girls and men and women can go to school.

"That is the way we try to make our country a good place to live in."

"How I love Uncle Charlie!" said Jean as they walked away after they said good-by.

"He is a fine man," said Mr. Gray. "We must all take good care of him when he comes back."

"Shall we go back to our trailer now and send a letter to Uncle John and Auntie Jane?" asked Mrs. Gray.

"I want to write to Jim and Charlie. I shall ask them to play with Frisky a little every day," said John.



"My! We are all very quiet," said Mr. Gray after a while. "Who will mail our letter?"

"Let me do it," said Jean.

"I'll go with you," said John.

Soon Mr. and Mrs. Gray heard three or four children. Jean and John had two other children with them.

"Mother," said Jean, "this is Mary Harrison and this is Jack Harrison. Their father and mother want us to ask if they may come to call on you."



"We shall be glad to have them come at any time," said Mrs. Gray.

Soon a man and woman came over.

"How do you do, Mrs. Harrison and Mr. Harrison?" said Mrs. Gray.

"How do you do?" said Mr. Gray.

They talked about their children and about their work. They talked about where they were going and what they had seen after they left home.

"I like the ocean. We live near it," said Mrs. Harrison.

"We live where there are some mountains, but there is no ocean," said Mrs. Gray.

"It is home though, and you love it because of that," said Mr. Harrison.

"I think we all love home," said Mrs. Gray.



"You have a fine trailer, Mr. Gray," said Mr. Harrison. "Ours is old, but come over and let us show it to you."

They all walked together to the Harrisons' trailer. On the way they talked about what they had seen in that day's newspaper.

"See the children!" said Mrs. Gray. "It does not take them long to get to be friends."

"I think we all should try to know more people better."

The next morning Mrs. Gray said, "Children, how did you like the new friends you met?"

"Oh, we liked them," said John. "Two of them live by the ocean. They are going to send us some shells."

"Two of them live where it is warm all the time. They have never seen a snow storm," said Jean.

"We had so much to talk about, Mother," said John. "I can learn so many things from people."

"So can I," said Jean. "I know so many things about the places where those children live."

"We liked Mr. and Mrs. Harrison too. We did not get to know any other people," said Mrs. Gray.

"Are we ready now?" said Mr. Gray.

The family took a drive up another mountain road. How beautiful it was! They saw men working to get silver from a mine. The children found a piece of rock that had silver in it.

When they came back to get the trailer, they saw Jean's best coat and hat. Some one had found them and hung them on the trailer door.

"That is very kind of some one," said Mrs. Gray.

"Maybe some of our new friends did this for us," said Mr. Gray.

"I shall call for the mail and then we shall go on. All of the others have gone."

"I shall thank the man who takes care of things," said Jean. "Maybe he found my hat and coat."

Things to Do

1. Name many things we use that are found in the ground.

2. Tell why we must use all of these things with care.

3. Try to make some of the things that Indian boys and girls can make.

4. Tell about how you first came to know some of your very best friends.

5. Tell about the things that men and women go to school to learn.

6. Ask your teacher to help you find out how our country helps us send and get letters.

7. Tell why we like to get letters.

8. Tell why we should take the time to write letters to our friends.

9. Tell why you like your own home.



Along Great Rivers

The Grays drove all the afternoon. Now they were close to a river. They had left the high mountains behind.

"This is beautiful country too," said Mrs. Gray.

"It makes me think of the river near home," said John. "I wonder what Uncle and Auntie are doing right now. What do you think, Father?"

"I know," said Jean. "This is the time Uncle John listens to the radio. Then he says 'That man tells us things we all should know and think about.'"

"He does not always say that, Jean," said John. "I heard him say one day 'That man may think people will believe what he says, but I hope that they know better than to do it.'"

Mr. Gray said, "We need to have more people like Uncle John in our country. We need men and women who know enough not to believe all they hear people say."

"That is so, Father," said Mrs. Gray, "because in our country people can talk over the radio or anywhere else. Those who listen to them have to know what to believe."

John said, "I heard a man say, 'You must not believe all you read.' What did he mean?"

Mr. Gray said, "I will tell you, John. In our country people can nearly always say what they wish to say.

"That is why we need schools for children and for men and women too. Schools try to help us know what is really so."

Mrs. Gray said, "Yes, but we can believe what many people tell us, too. We know them or know about them. Those are our really great people. They help us to know what to do."

"I see that I must learn to think for myself as Uncle John does," said John.

"I hope you will," said Mr. Gray.

While Mr. and Mrs. Gray and John had talked, Jean had taken a walk.

"See what I found!" she said. She had a little bird. It was frightened.

"I know where it belongs, John."

John said, "Come on, I'll help you put it in its nest if I can."

The children found the nest and put the bird in it.

"Come, children; it is late," said Mr. Gray. "Who will be in bed first?"





"Good morning!" said Mr. Gray.

"Good morning!" said the man in the car.

By this time Jean had seen the baby in the car. "Oh, may I go closer, Mother?" asked Jean.

"Yes, I think so," said Mrs. Gray. "We will both go."

"We are from the South," said the man.

The baby liked Jean. A boy as big as John got out of the car.

Then they all told more about where they were going and where they had been.

They told about good places to stay at night. They told about their homes.

"We grow early vegetables, cotton, and fruit on our farm in the South," said the man.

Jean found out that this was the baby's first birthday.

Mrs. Gray asked them to stop to see Uncle Charlie.

"We will do that," they said as they went on their way.



That day and most of the next the Grays drove near a river. A soft rain made them go slowly.

"This rain will help to make things grow," said Mr. Gray, "but I am glad that we are on a good road."

"Who makes these roads?" asked Jean.

Mrs. Gray said, "Our country gave the money to build this road, Jean. This is another one of the things that we all use together. You know we give a little of our money to our country each year.

"Then our country uses the money for things that help all of the people. Our country has men at work doing many things for all of us that we can not get done in any other way."



Toward evening the sun was shining. How fresh and green the fields and trees looked! The air was fresh too.

"How beautiful this is!" said John as they drove on the big bridge.

"What a big river this is!" said Jean.

"Why do we stop here?" asked John.

Mr. Gray said, "We give some money to the bridge keeper. This is another of the things we all use. So we give a little of our money to help to take care of the bridge."

As the family drove into a little city, they saw people who were ready to hear a talk. The Grays went to listen.

The man asked the people to believe him and to do as he wanted them to do.

Mr. Gray said, "Many of these people are going to think more about this. They will talk it over and then do as they think best."

Mrs. Gray said, "These people are right. That is what we should do always. I like these people."



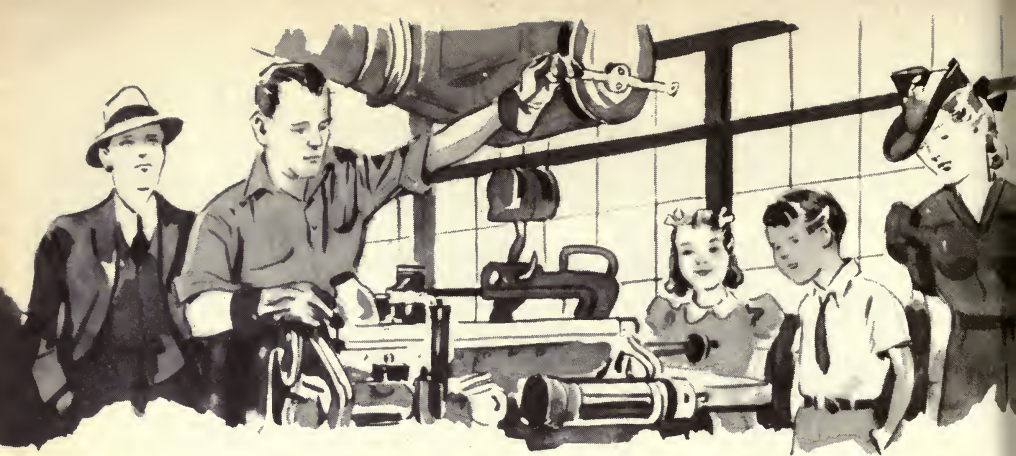


The next morning the family were on their way early. They did not see great rivers, but they did see great farms.

Mrs. Gray said, "We should be very glad that there are great farms like these in our country."

"Yes," said Mr. Gray, "there are many large farms around here. Much of our food comes from farms like these.

"We always have food enough because our country is so large and we have so many fine farms."



That afternoon the Grays drove into a city. They left the trailer with a man where they would stay that night.

Then they went to see a great mill where breakfast food is made. They all went through the mill. They learned much about the ways our country helps us to have clean food.

The man who took them through the mill gave them some breakfast food. They had seen it put into the package.

"Thank you," said Jean and John.

As they drove along the next day, they saw more farms and many schools.

"What fine schools the people have here!" said Mrs. Gray. "We see large buildings, ball grounds, and places for the little children to play."

"They have schools for big people too," said Jean. "I saw many, many men and women going to school in one place. I shall tell Uncle Charlie about it in my next letter to him."

Mr. Gray said, "More people live around here than live near the high mountains. They need more schools."

"They have many churches around here too," said John.

"We shall see big schools and fine churches where we stay tonight," said Mr. Gray.



The Grays wanted to know where to go to leave their trailer for the night. They wanted to find the post office.

A policeman came to the car. "May I help you?" he said.

Mr. Gray told him what they wanted.

The policeman told them just where to go. Then he said, "If I can help you again, let me know."

"Each policeman has been very kind to us," said Mrs. Gray. "We all help to pay the policemen."

After a good night's sleep the family were soon ready to drive around to see the city and to go to church.

They found a church like the one they went to when they were at home. The people asked them to come again.

After dinner they went to a place where other people had come to see the river.

"Oh, how beautiful this is!" they said.

"This river is called The Father of Waters," said Mr. Gray. "Let us eat supper here."



Things to Do

1. Tell how you try to know what to believe when you hear it or read it.
2. Tell about people you have met who live in other places.
3. Tell why so many people in our country can go from their homes to some other place for a vacation.
4. Find out who pays for the good roads and bridges in our country.
5. Tell about the things our country does to help us have clean food.
6. Find out how we pay the people our country keeps at work for us.
7. Find pictures of beautiful places near your home that belong to the people.
8. Tell how policemen help us.







The Father of Waters

"This river is big," said Jean as they started over the bridge. They gave the bridge keeper some money to help keep the bridge ready for use.

Mrs. Gray said, "Jean and John, you will learn much about this river in school. We will buy some pictures for you to keep with the others you have."

John said, "It will be fun to learn more about places we have seen."

The family always had mail at each place they asked for it. Uncle John and Auntie Jane told them all about things at home in their letters.

Jean and John sent pictures of the places they saw to Uncle and Auntie. They sent letters too.

Before lunch time Mr. Gray said, "Jean, do you know where you are going to sleep tonight?"

"No," said Jean. "Where?"

"I should like to stay on the banks of this river," said John. "May we?"

"Mother and I thought we should like to drive on to Grandmother's today. What do you think about that?"

"Please let us stay here just one night," said Jean. "It is so nice here!"



"How shall we let Grandmother know if we change our plans?" asked Mrs. Gray.

"We can telephone to her," said Mr. Gray.

"All right, children, we shall do as you wish this time."

"Thank you, Father," said John.

"Thank you, Mother," said Jean.

"Now go and play near the river, but take care not to fall in," said Mr. Gray.

The next morning the Grays drove on toward Grandmother's home.

Mr. Gray said, "Grandmother lives near the edge of the city. We can take the trailer into her yard."

"This is beautiful!" said Mrs. Gray. "I know now why Grandmother likes to live here."

"We shall soon be there now," said Mr. Gray. "How glad I shall be to see my mother!"





"How happy I am to have you all here!" said Grandmother. "What a fine trailer! Have you had a good time in it?"

"Yes," said Mr. Gray, "but I shall be glad to live in a real house for a few days."

"Then come right in," said their grandmother. "Lunch is all ready, children. Are you hungry?"

"Yes! yes!" said Jean and John.

Letters had been put at each one's plate by Grandmother.

What fun it was for Jean and John to hear from Jim and Charlie Brown!

How glad Mr. Gray was to know that the store was in good hands!

Mrs. Gray said that Auntie told her about the fruit she had put in cans for next winter.

"We could not have had this vacation," said Mr. Gray, "if it had not been for Uncle and Auntie."

"We can never do enough for them to make up for it," said Mrs. Gray.

Grandmother said, "Uncle John and Auntie Jane believe in doing kind things. They have asked me to go South with them next winter."

"That is fine," said Mr. Gray.



"This is our country's birthday," said Grandmother the next morning. "We shall have a party for our country and for you children too."

That afternoon little boys and girls came to Grandmother's party.

Grandmother dressed as women did a long time ago. She told the children how things used to be when she was a little girl.



She told them how she came to her new home in a wagon and lived in a log house on a farm.

She told them that she was the school teacher in the winter. In the summer she used to help on the farm.

"It is not like that now," she said. "You children have things we had never heard about but we were happy.

"It has taken a long time to make our great country what it is. Men and women have worked hard for you."



Then Grandmother said to them,
“I am glad we have better schools
for all of the children. I am glad we
know better how to keep people well.

“I am glad that people do not have
to work so long each day as we had
to work.

“Really, children, I think people in
our country now have much to be happy
about. Shall we salute the flag of our
country?”

The next day Mr. Gray took the children on a drive through the city. They saw the river called the Father of Waters. "It really started this city," said Mr. Gray. "In the early days that Grandmother told you about the people built a few flour mills here.

"Farmers came with their wheat to have it made into flour. They bought things in the stores. They sent much of their wheat down the river in boats. Cotton came up the river.

"Now this is a big city. Many things are made here. This morning you saw a great school for men and women. I went to school there not so long ago. Every city in our country has had to grow much like this one. It takes time."

All too soon it was time to leave Grandmother's house.

"How far are we from home?" asked Jean.

"If you should drive south from here for two days, we should be there, Jean," said Mr. Gray.

Mrs. Gray said, "Let us telephone to Uncle John and Auntie Jane. They will like to talk with us."

"We could not telephone when you were little," said Grandmother to Mr. Gray.

"No, Mother, but one thing will stay the same always," said Mr. Gray.

"What is that?" asked Grandmother.

"Mothers are the very best things we have, and they always will be," said Mr. Gray.

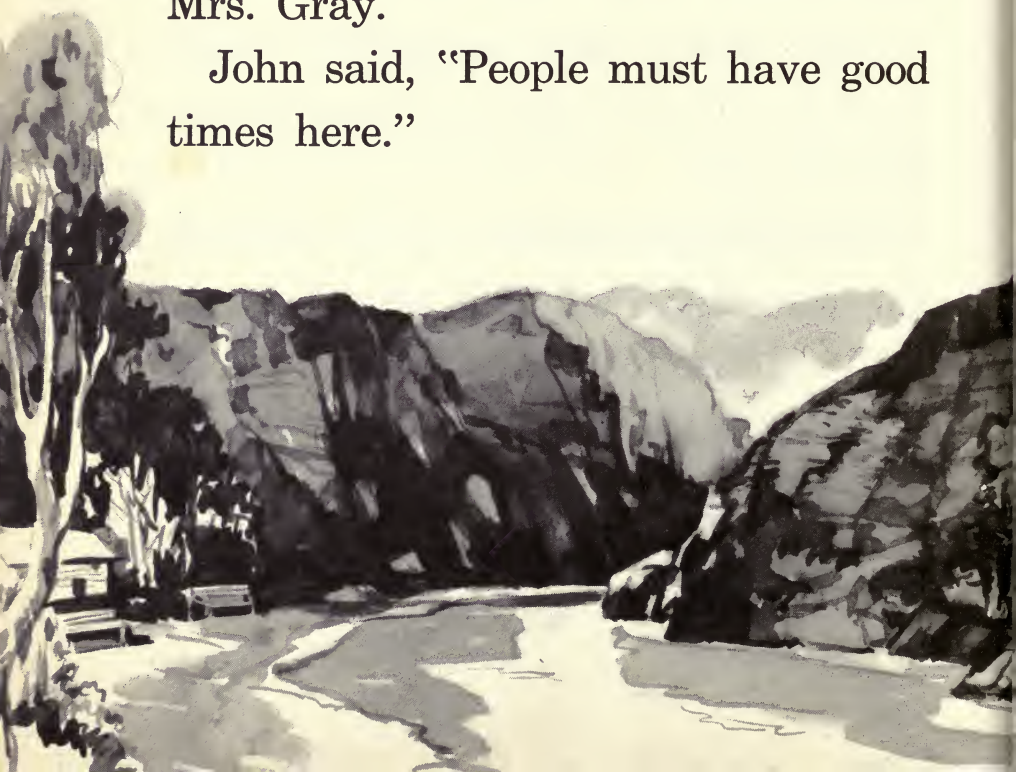
Going to a Big Lake

After the Grays left Grandmother's home, they drove by some beautiful lakes. They saw a beautiful river on their way too.

"This is a fine vacation land," said Mr. Gray.

"I should like to come here some summer and stay for a while," said Mrs. Gray.

John said, "People must have good times here."



As the family drove along, Mr. Gray said, "Once the land here was covered with trees. Men cut all the trees for lumber. They did not let any more trees grow up or plant any more trees.

"Now our country knows that we must have more trees. It has bought land that is not good for farms. Men plant trees on this land.

"They grow the little trees in garden beds. They give some little trees to boys and girls in school to plant at home. On some farms where small trees have come up, the men ask the farmers to let the trees grow. They call such places farmers' wood lots.

"In this way our country will try to grow enough wood for all of us for many years to come."

"What is this?" asked Jean.

"Why, this is a place where they grow little trees," said Mrs. Gray.

Soon the family were out of the car. A man told them about the work that was being done there.

He said, "Children, we need the help of boys and girls everywhere to put trees where they should be. Will you help and will you get other children to help?"

"We will," said Jean and John.



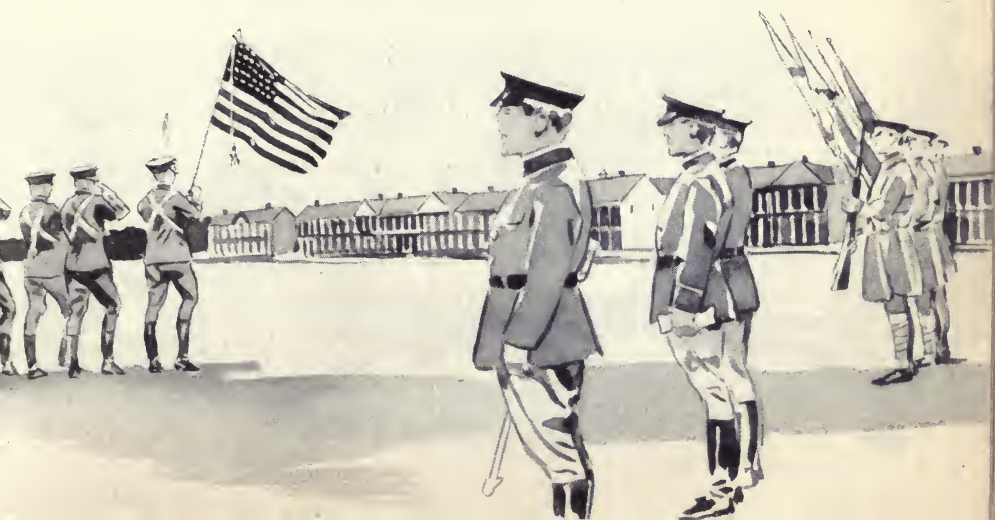
There was much to see all that day.
John said, "Oh, I see some soldiers!"

A soldier was at work near the road.
Mr. Gray asked why the men were there.

The soldier told them that this was a place where men came in summer to learn how to be good soldiers.

"I am glad to come," he said. "Then if my country ever needs me, I shall be ready to do my best."

"The country will always need men who will do their best," said Mr. Gray.



The next day Jean said, "See the cows!"

"There are fine farms here," said Mrs. Gray.

"Yes," said Mr. Gray, "farmers here keep many cows. They send milk to other places from here. They make most of their money from milk and from foods made out of milk."

"Farms like these make me want one all the more," said Mrs. Gray.

"We may have a farm some day," said Mr. Gray.



As they rode along, Mrs. Gray said, "I see the people here believe in going to school. I have seen big schools for men and women. I have seen many fine schools for boys and girls."

"I have seen many churches too," said John.

"Yes," said Mr. Gray, "I am always glad when I see people go to church. I am glad too that no one makes people go to church in this country of ours."

Jean said, "Are we almost there? I do not see any lake."

"We come to a big city first," said Mr. Gray. "We are in it now. Soon we shall find the place where we go on the boat. Then we shall be near the big lake."



"Father has been gone a long time," said Jean while they sat in the car.

Just then Mr. Gray came toward them. He did not look very happy.

"You will have a big surprise now," he said. "It is not a nice surprise."

"Tell us! Tell us!" said Jean.

"Well," said Mr. Gray, "the boat goes in the night now. It does not go in the afternoon. But that is not all. The trailer is too high to go on the boat. We did not think about that."

"What are we going to do?" asked John.

Mr. Gray said, "The man told me that the drive to the other side of the lake is beautiful. He said that we would find good places to eat and a fine place to stay tonight."

"Shall we start right away?" asked Mrs. Gray. "I think we may all like this way better. We can really see more of the country this way."

"Mother, you always see the bright side of things. You don't know how much that helps," said Mr. Gray.

Toward evening it began to rain. Mr. Gray said, "Our country is good to look at, even in the rain."

"Well, it is our country. Maybe that is why we like it," said Mrs. Gray.

Things to Do

1. Tell how we should feel toward people who do not think as we do.

2. Tell why you like to have all of your family together once in a while for a party.

3. Get some old people to tell you more about what our country was like when they were little children.

4. Tell some of the things that our country lets us do in the ways we wish to do them.

5. Talk about the things the Grays should do so that they will not get hurt.

6. Talk about the things they should do so that they will not hurt others with their car or the trailer.







Old Friends Meet Again

"Well! well! Frank, my boy," said Mr. Gray, "we are happy to be here."

"I am more than glad to see each one of you," said Frank Green. "You don't know what this means to me, Mr. Gray."

"You gave me a good home when I first began to work for you. I still feel like one of your family."

"We want you to feel that way always," said Mrs. Gray.

By this time Jean and John knew they would like Frank too. They were little when he lived at their home. So they did not know how very good he had been to them then.

Mrs. Gray said, "Frank, you found a fine place here for us to stay. The keeper is so kind. He has given us fresh vegetables from his garden."

"I want you all to eat your first dinner here with me, Mrs. Gray," said Frank. "We are going to eat at The Lodge and have some fish that I caught just for you."

"Uncle Charlie lives at a place by that name too," said Jean.

"Oh, here is your mail," said Frank as he took a package of letters from his car.

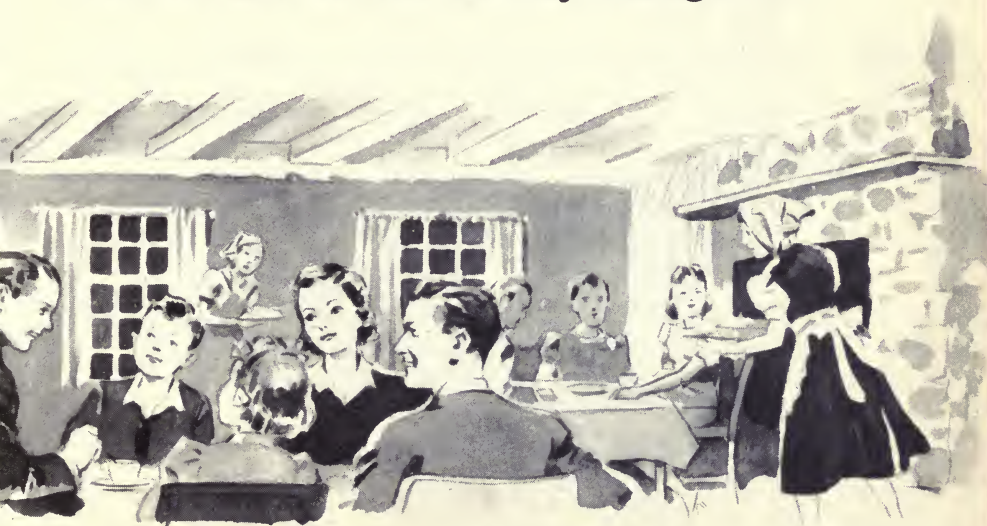
They all looked at their letters and told what was in them. Then they went to The Lodge.

While they were at dinner, Mr. Gray said, "Frank, I want to see your store."

Mrs. Gray said, "And, Frank, we want you to have dinner with us every evening while we are here."

"I want to be with you all that I can," said Frank. "I may be late."

"I am used to that," said Mrs. Gray. "We must think about the people who come to our stores to buy things."



The days were going all too fast for John and Jean. There were so many things to do that were real fun!

There were some children here from the South where cotton grows. There were others here from a city in the East. There were children here from the land of sunshine and oranges. There were children here from another country. They played together all day long. They told about their homes and their friends. They had such good times together!



One day John said, "Father, we want the keeper to find a man to teach us how to swim."

"Well, John," said Mr. Gray; "the keeper is not the man to ask. The city owns this place. You must ask Frank to tell you who could help you."

That evening John, Jean, and the other children had a talk with Frank. When he left, he had a letter with the names of all the children at the end of it.

"This is like what we did at school when we wanted a picnic," said John.

"We did that once when we wanted to go to the circus," said another boy.

Two days after that two men came to see the children. One was the man who got the letter.

The other man came to teach the children how to swim and how to help others in the water.

Every day happy children tried and tried until they could swim a little. Their teacher was as glad as the children were when they could swim.

Jean and John could swim very well. Most of the others who were old enough to work with their teacher could swim too.





Nearly every nice evening, after the children were in bed, the other people came together to talk or play games.

They would get news over the radio. They had newspapers, and then the people would tell what they thought about things.

Some people thought one way, and some people thought another way. One evening Mr. Gray said, "I need to know more about the way people from other places feel about things."

Another man said, "I think the talks we have here will do us all good. We do not any of us know enough about this great country of ours."

"You are right," said an old man. "This big country of ours can be made a much better place than it is now. But we need to learn to work together more."

"That is just what we said at school," said a big boy. "I believe it."

Early the next morning the Grays said good-by to their many new friends. It was hard to say good-by to Frank Green.

Mr. Gray said, "Frank, you are just the kind of man I wanted you to be. Some day I may start a new store. If I do, I want you to own it with me."

Where Many Things Are Made

"I am sure we have had our best vacation days now," said John. "I do not see how we could have a better time at any other place."

"Maybe not," said Mr. Gray, "but we have much to see and learn yet. Today we are going through one city after another. Many of the things we have in our store are made around here."



Soon Jean and John found new things to look at and ask about. The houses and other buildings looked as if they had been there a long time.

Mrs. Gray told the children that many people had come here from the East and made their homes long ago.

She told them that white people had come on the lakes and rivers to live on this fine land.

"This is another place where the trees are nearly gone. Here we now have farms and one city after another," said Mr. Gray.

"I see where they have put many little trees," said John.

"Yes," said Mr. Gray, "it is time too that we all think about the need for better care of our farm land."



"Does land wear out like other things?" said Jean.

Mr. Gray laughed. "Where does the dirt come from that we see in the air when the wind blows hard, Jean?"

"It comes off the land," said Jean.

"Yes," said Mr. Gray, "and it is almost always the good dirt that blows away. We have started to do things to take care of land, but we must all help."

"I heard that over the radio," said John. "Our country must take care of its land so that we can always have food."

After the family had an early dinner, Mr. Gray told them he had a surprise for them. They all got in the car and drove through the city. Soon they saw a beautiful place.

"I see an elephant," said Jean.

"I see other animals," said John.

"Oh, Father, how did you know we wanted to do this?" said Jean.

"A little bird told me," said her father with a laugh.



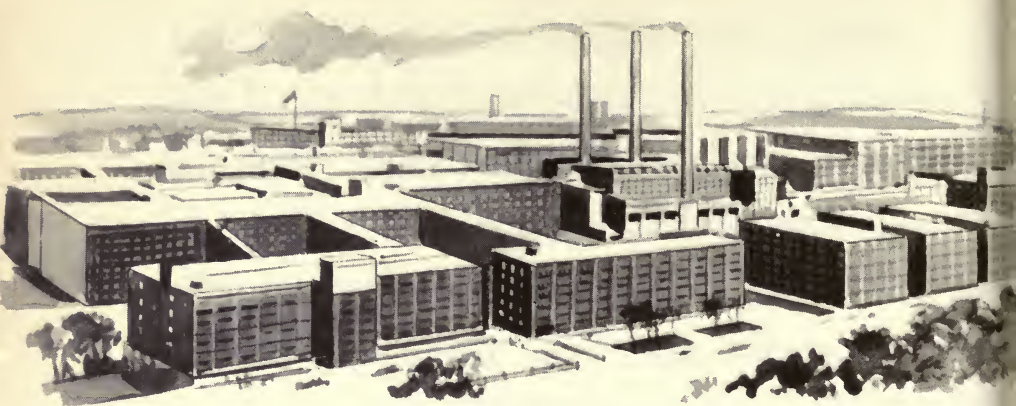
While the family were at breakfast the next morning, they told all of the things they could that were made in the places they had been.

"We shall find many things made here too," said Mrs. Gray. "Can we drive around a little?"

"Yes," said Mr. Gray. "I want the children to see how coal is sent to other places from here."

When they came back from their ride, John said, "I saw some big boats."

Mr. Gray said, "Yes, John, and these boats help this city very much. They carry things on the water. Trains carry things on land. Airplanes carry things in the air. These three ways to get things and to send things away help any city."



"I smell rubber," said Jean as they drove near this city later that day.

"Yes," said Mrs. Gray, "this is where they make many things from rubber. Would you like to learn how they do it?"

"Yes! Yes!" said Jean and John.

"Tomorrow we shall go to learn all we can about rubber," said Mr. Gray.

"Then I can tell about it at school next year," said Jean.

"So can I," said John.

The next morning the children found out many things about rubber. They found out that rubber comes from other lands.

Mr. Gray said, "You have seen that our country gives us many things. Some things we do not have. We must get these things from other lands."

John said, "Then some people in other lands must work hard for us."

Jean said, "We need to be friendly with people in every country. Then we can help them, and they will help us."

Mrs. Gray said, "Yes, we want to be friendly with people in other lands. We should be more friendly, too, with the people in our own country who work hard for us."



"Here is another big city," said Mrs. Gray.

"Are many things made here?" asked John.

"A great many things are made here. There are many great schools here too," said Mr. Gray.

"We have seen big schools in each city," said John, "and so many little schools in the country."

"Yes," said Mr. Gray, "there are more people around here. They need more schools."



Going toward the Land of Cotton

"We are going to see many new things today, children," said Mr. Gray.

"We shall see farms. We shall see the villages where farmers buy what they need. We shall see another vacation land too."

All day they drove through beautiful country. They saw high hills covered with trees. They saw farms in the low lands between the hills.

That night they stayed in a yard near a small river. They liked it there.

Mr. Gray said, "Today we are going to see a fine school."

They drove into a small city with high hills around it. "Big boys and girls go to this school," said Mr. Gray. "They may work here to get the money to keep on going to school.

"Some do farm work. Some bake. Some do other kinds of work. They could not go to school if they could not work their way through.

"People buy the things they make because they are made so well. Many people all over our country know about this school for boys and girls who live here in the hills and mountains."

A big boy came toward their car.

"Would you like to see our school?" he asked. "Some of us stay here all summer to work on the farm and in the shops."

He took the Grays through some of the buildings. He told them about the school. He said, "When I get all through here, I am going back to my mountain home to teach school."

"That is fine!" said Mrs. Gray.



The next morning Jean said, "It is raining. Now we can write letters."

"Yes," said Mother, "we have much to tell and it is raining too hard to drive on these mountain roads."

"I want to write to Jim and Charlie Brown about that boy who works so that he can go to school," said John.

Mr. Gray said, "I liked that boy. I liked him because he is going back home to teach the school. Maybe his own little brothers and sisters will go to the school.

"There are not enough good schools in this mountain country yet. This boy wants to do all he can to have better schools for these boys and girls. We must all work for good schools everywhere."

"See the sun!" said John. "Let us go."

Soon they came to a very big river. Mr. Gray said, "In the spring and fall much rain falls here. After a rain this river sometimes became so big that it washed away farms. The river sometimes washed away streets and buildings in one city after another."

"Then our country put men to work to build great walls to hold back the water after heavy rains. Now this water can be used when it is needed."



"You see," Mr. Gray went on, "the people who live around here could not do this alone. It took much money and many big machines. Many men were given work so that they could live better.

"Our country does big things like this for us, but we give some of our money to help get the things done.

"The biggest work that is going on around here we have not seen yet. It is the care of the land.

"Water going down hills takes some of the best dirt along with it. Slowly our good land is carried away by water.

"Our country has men at work in many places to stop this as much as they can. We shall watch for some of this fine work."

After the letters from home had been looked at, the family had dinner. Then they got ready for bed.

Before Jean went to sleep, she asked, "Are there any big airports down here?"

"We shall ask tomorrow," said her father. "Maybe there are."

"Are we going to see cotton soon?" asked John.

"I think so," said Mrs. Gray. "Shall we all say good night?"



Things to Do

1. Talk with your teacher about this.
“We care more about what people are than we do about how much they have.”

2. Talk with as many people as you can to learn more about our country and what it does for us.

3. Wind and water carry away some of our good land. Find out how we can all help to take better care of land.

4. Find out how vacation lands help birds and animals.

5. Name as many things as you can that people work in mills to make for us.

6. Find out more of the things we need that we do not have in our land.







In the South

The next morning the family went to one of the very beautiful places that Uncle John had asked them to see.

On the way back, they heard some people singing in church. They all stopped to listen. "Those are colored people," said Mrs. Gray. "They sing in their own way but it is beautiful."

"I like it too," said John.

All the next day the Grays drove through high hills with some little farms between them.

Mr. Gray stopped to show Jean and John how men and boys work to keep water from washing away land.

"There is need for much more work of this kind in many places in our country," he said.

"These boys and men get money for their work. But they work for our country to make it better for all of us."



That night the Grays stayed at a beautiful place for trailers. Before they went to bed, Mr. Gray said, "Jean, how would you like to see your little friend Mary Lewis?"

"Father, are we going to see Mary?" cried Jean.

"Are we going to see Tommy?" asked John.

Mrs. Gray said, "We have kept this as a surprise for you children."

"We think you are going to have good times with Mary and Tommy," said Father.

"They live at an airport," said Jean.

"Yes," said Mr. Gray, "and Mr. Lewis teaches soldiers how to fly."

"Oh, Father," said John, "this is more than I could even wish for."



Early the next day the Grays drove on. On their way they went to the top of a mountain to look out over the land.

"This is as beautiful a place as I have ever seen," said Mrs. Gray.

"It is beautiful," said Mr. Gray.

Jean and John saw something new every time they looked. "To think," said Jean, "all this was here and we did not know it before!"

All that day they saw cotton fields.

Toward evening they came to the place where Mary and Tommy Lewis lived.

Jean said, "Here, this is the airport."

"It is more than an airport," said Mr. Gray. "It is a school where men learn to fly so that they can work for our country."

The Grays found a place to put the trailer, and then they went to see the Lewis family.





Grandmother Lewis lives next door to the Grays' home.

Every summer the Lewis children stay a while with her. That is how they all came to be such good friends.

Mr. and Mrs. Lewis and the children had many things to ask the Grays.

"How is Frisky?" asked Mary Lewis.

"He is fine," said Jean. "I have a picture of him to give you."

"How is Mrs. Hill's big cat?" asked Tommy. "Is he as mean as ever?"

Then they all laughed.

In a few minutes Jean and John began to dance around and say, "Good! Good!"

"What is so good?" asked Mr. Gray with a laugh.

"Oh, Father!" said Jean. "What a surprise!"

"Do you like it?" asked Mr. Gray.

"Do we like it?" said John. "I don't see why we did not think of it."

Jean climbed into the chair with her father. "That is what you and Mother had in those letters that you put into your pocket," she said.

Mary Lewis came over to Mrs. Gray and said, "Tommy and I want to tell you now how glad we are that we can go home with you. We had to tell Jean and John about it tonight."

"We must go to our trailer now," said Mr. Gray.

"Yes," said Mr. Lewis, "let us all go to the trailer to get the things you need for the night. Your beds are all ready for you here."

When the children were in bed, the others had a talk. Mr. Lewis said he would take them around the next day. Then in the afternoon the Grays would start toward home.



John said, "Mr. Lewis, what do all these men do after they learn to fly?"

Mr. Lewis said, "John, you know what the policeman does for the city? He is there to help if there is a need.

"Our men are really policemen for this big country of ours. When bad storms drive people out of their homes, our men go there to help.

"If boats on the ocean are in need, our men can fly to help them. If other airplanes are lost, we go to look for them.

"Sometimes there are bad fires in the woods. Some of our men help to find these fires while they can be put out. Then other men come to put out the fires."

Mr. Gray said, "That is fine work."

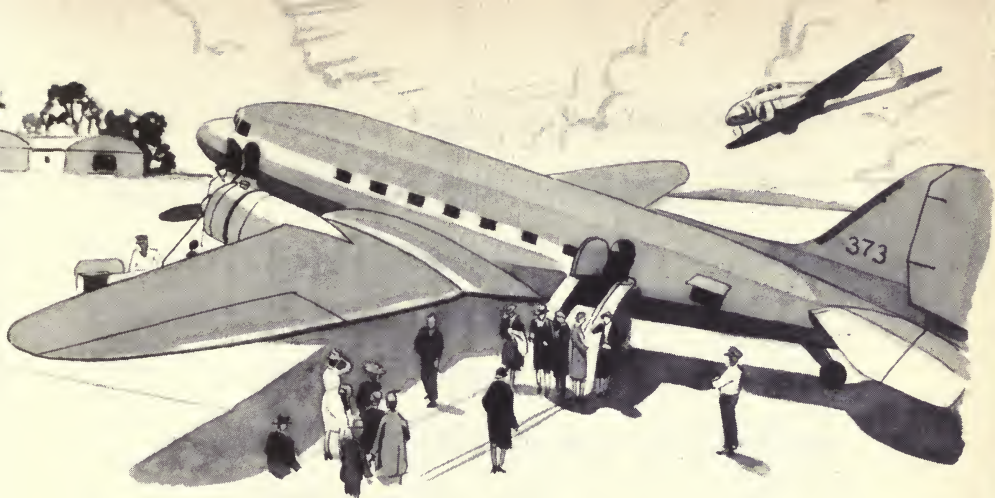
Too soon it was time to leave the Lewis home.

Mr. Lewis wanted the Grays to see a great city where many things are made.

From a place on a hill, where they were to stay all night, they saw the great mills. They saw the beautiful homes and the fine schools.

“Who knows but we may have many more cities like this in the South before long?” said Mr. Gray.





Going toward Home

Before the Grays left this city, they took Jean to see the big airport. She saw an airplane land. She also saw another airplane "take off."

"Now I have seen what I wanted to see most of all," she said.

As they left the airport, Mrs. Gray said, "Think how it helps us all to have airplanes to carry letters and packages. We do not wait long for things now."

They were all glad when they came to the pretty place where they were going to stay that night.

The day had been hot. There had been a little rain, and the Grays wanted to get their mail.

More than this, they were going to sleep in real beds that night in nice cabins.

Mr. Lewis had sent a letter asking the keeper to have rooms for them.



Mr. Gray and the boys went to get the mail. Mrs. Gray and the girls got dinner ready.

John and Jean had letters. Mr. and Mrs. Gray had letters. They all told what was in their letters. Then they had dinner.

"This is fun," said Tommy.

"Our little cabins are like play houses," said Jean.

"It is like the old times that our grandmother told us about," said John.

"Would you children like to look around while Father and I do the after-dinner work?" asked Mrs. Gray.

Away went the children. Soon they came back with news. There was a family there who lived way out West. They had a sheep ranch.



"Very well," said Mrs. Gray, "I will go back with you and ask them to come over to see us."

The children soon found out that their new friends had many things to tell them about good times in their mountain home.

"We saw sheep down here too," said John, "but not as many as you have, I am sure."

"We have a good many," said the boy. "I will send you some pictures of our ranch."

"My father is down here to talk with a man about a plan they would like to try," said the boy.

"It is too hot for sheep here in the summer. It is very cold where we live in the winter.

"They would like to have all their sheep at our ranch in summer. Then they would bring them all to the ranch down here for the winter."

Mr. Gray had come over to listen to the children. "That is a good way to work things out together," he said. "We should do more of that in other kinds of work too."

"That is not all we want to do," said the boy. "We want to live down here in winter and in the mountains in the summer."



The new friends from the West left before the Grays did the next morning. But they came over to ask the Grays to visit them when they had another vacation.

"They are fine people," said Mrs. Gray. "I should like to know them better."

"I liked that boy," said Tommy.

"I liked the little girl," said Jean.

"We have come to the great Father of Waters again," said Mr. Gray as they drove on the big bridge.

"The river is big here," said Tommy.
"The people must be afraid of it when it rains too much."

Mr. Gray told the children how men have made walls to keep this river off the land. He asked them to think what men had done to hold back water in other places they had seen.

"We have seen that done to two rivers," said Mr. Gray. "Our country has done that with other rivers. When more of our rivers are taken care of, we shall not have to be afraid of them."

"This land is good," said Mrs. Gray.
"The cotton and other things look fine this year."

"This is some of our best farm land," said Mr. Gray. "Soon we shall see high hills and pasture lands."



"Shall we stay right here tonight, Mother?" asked Mr. Gray.

"Oh, please let us," said Jean and John.

Mr. Gray talked to the keeper. Then the Grays and Mary and Tommy ate dinner. Mrs. Gray and the girls slept in one cabin. Mr. Gray and the boys went to bed in the trailer.

"How clean and nice it is here!" said Mary.

"Well, Mother," said Mr. Gray the next morning, "we are almost home. What a fine vacation we have had!"

"I want to take the children to see one more thing today. It is the river under the ground. It will be good for us to see it too."

"Shall we keep that for another surprise?" asked Mrs. Gray.

"Yes, I think so," said Mr. Gray.

Soon they were on their way and John said, "This country is pretty."





Mr. Gray stopped the car. "Here is a place where they take care of little fish," he said. "I told you about this the day we went to the river with Mr. White.

"There is something else here too. We are going to have a boat ride. It is not like the boat ride Frank Green gave you on the big lake."

After they had looked at the little fish, they went under the ground. There they had a ride in a small boat.

"This is a big surprise," said Jean.

When they came out to get into their car, they saw people near their trailer.

"It is the Harrisons," said Mrs. Gray.

"We thought we knew your trailer," they said. "Come and have lunch."

"There are too many of us," said Mrs. Gray.

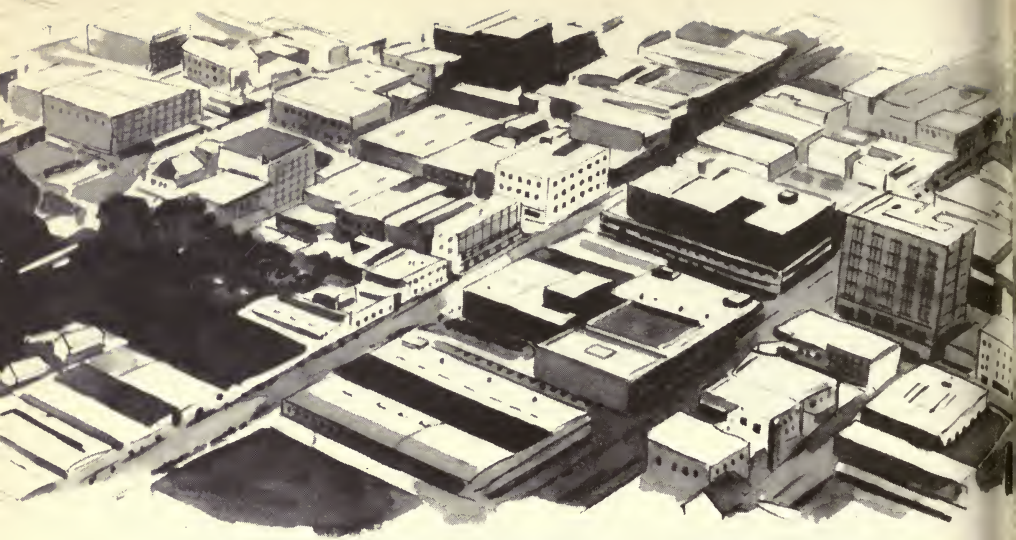
"We have enough for all of you," said Mrs. Harrison.

What a good time they all had together! The Harrisons were on their way to their home in the East.

"You must come East next year," they said. "It is so beautiful there."

"You must go through the South too," said Mrs. Gray. "It is very beautiful there."

Mr. Gray said, "I think there are beautiful places all over our country."



"Here we are in the fine city not far from our home," said Mr. Gray. "It looks as good as any we have seen."

"It looks good to me," said Tommy.

"Are we near my Grandmother's?" asked Mary Lewis.

"Almost there," said Mrs. Gray. "I want to get home too."

"We have seen only a little of our country," said Mr. Gray, "but we know much more about it than we did."

"We know more now about many of the great things in our country," said Mrs. Gray. "We shall know much better what to believe when people talk."

"Yes, we shall know better what to think about what the newspapers say," said Mr. Gray.

"I know that I can never thank Uncle John and Auntie Jane enough for their trailer," said Jean.

"Uncle John and Auntie Jane have given us all the best present our family could have," said Mr. Gray.



Things to Do

1. Find or make pictures to show some things Jean and John saw in the South.

2. Tell what men are doing to make water help us more and more.

3. Tell what men are doing so that water will not wash away good land.

4. Find out more about the work that soldiers in our country do for us.

5. Learn all you can about why our country takes care of fish, birds, and many animals of the fields and woods.

6. Find pictures of more of the queer places in our country that we should see.

7. Tell why we should pay a little money to see these places.







Home Again

"Auntie! Uncle John! Mrs. Lewis!" cried Mrs. Gray, "it is good to see you all."

Mr. Gray was close behind. "This is all we could ever ask for," he said. "A great vacation! All of us well! A home and friends to come back to!"

Mary and Tommy put their arms around Grandmother Lewis. She cried a little because she was so glad to see them.

"Come in now," said Auntie Jane. "We are all going to eat our dinner together. We all want to hear about what you have seen and done."

Just then Mrs. Hill came over to see them and to bring a big cake with all their names on it.

"You must stay with us for dinner," said Auntie.

"Yes, yes," said Jean and John. How happy they were!



Just as dinner was over, they heard people in the yard. Here were many of their friends, big and little. The men and women from the store were there. Some people they went to church with were there.

Mr. White was there. A few people from the country were there. Some of the children came to see Jean and John.

"We just want to tell you all how glad we are to see you," they said.

"We have asked about you, and we know you have many things to tell us.

"We shall ask you for talks; so you may as well get ready for them."

The man from the radio station was there. "Mr. Gray, your Uncle John and I have had good talks together," he said.

After their friends left, Jean and John went to look at their garden.

"Is this really our garden?" they said. Some of the plants were very big. Others were very small, for Jim and Charlie had done something that Uncle John told them they could do.

As fast as some vegetables were gone, they had put seeds or little plants back in the ground. "We shall have a good garden all fall," said Jean.

"Yes," said John, "and we shall have to work in it all fall too."

"We can do the work together," said Jean. "After Jim and Charlie have taken such good care of it, we must keep it going."

"That is right," said John, "and we can have good fresh vegetables too."

A tired but happy family went to bed early. The next day they went to church and saw many of their friends.

That afternoon Uncle and Auntie asked them to tell more about what they had seen and what they thought about things.

Mr. Gray said, "I never had thought before what it means to our country to have so many churches.

"We know that there are places in other lands where people are afraid to go to the church they want to go to. I am glad I live in this country."

"Yes," said Uncle John, "our country has people in it from many other lands. Anyone can go to the church he likes. If he does not go to any church, no one will make him go. That is right, too."

Mrs. Gray said, "I think the things I liked best of all were the talks we all had together.

"There were people from the North, the South, the East, and the West in the places where we stayed.

"We did not think the same about things. We told what we thought. Then we would listen to the others.

"I feel now that I know much more about the farmers in our country. I see why city people must work with farmers."



Soon the four children came into the yard.

"Where have you been?" asked Mrs. Gray.

"Oh, we have been to find out about all the things that our friends have been doing this summer," said John.

"There was a man here who taught the children to swim," said Jean.

"There was a vacation school, too, where the children learned how to make things they wanted to make," said John.

"Well, well!" said Mr. Gray. "We shall have to stay at home next year."

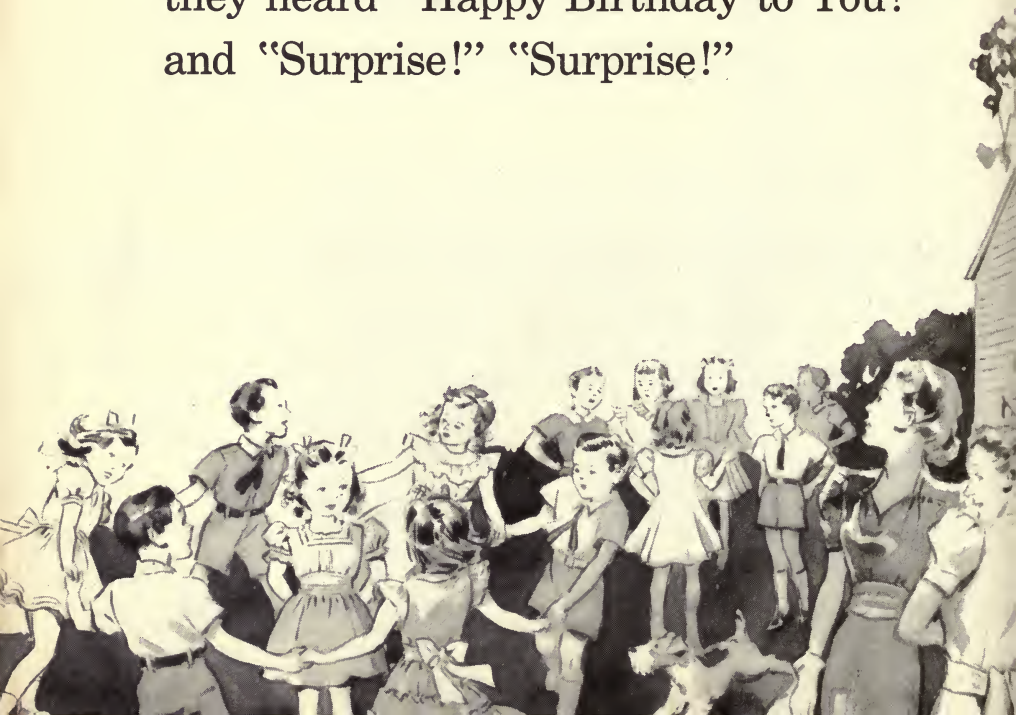
"Oh, we are glad the others had a good time too," said Jean. "They are going to teach us to make some of the things they know how to make."

The next day was Jean's birthday. They woke her up singing "Happy Birthday to You!"

All morning she and John did what they could to help Mother take their things out of the trailer.

That afternoon Mrs. Gray said, "Jean and John, I want you to try on some new clothes."

They had just put them on when they heard "Happy Birthday to You!" and "Surprise!" "Surprise!"





What fun they all had! Frisky's birthday was only a week later; so the party was for him too. He had some presents. Jean had many presents.

After she cut her birthday cake, they told her she had to give a talk. All she could say was, "I had a fine vacation. I saw many, many new places, but I like my own home and my own friends best of all."

Before she went to bed, Jean went over to thank Mrs. Hill for her birthday party. Jean was glad that she had bought a little present for the cat while she was away on her vacation.

Then Jean went to thank Mrs. Lewis. "I do thank you," she said. "It was so much work and you did it for me."

"We like to work for our best friends," said Mrs. Lewis.

Just then Mrs. Brown came into the room. Jean ran to her. "Oh, Mrs. Brown, I am glad to see you," she said.

"I am glad to see you and your family back home," said Mrs. Brown. "I asked about you, and Auntie Jane let us read all of your letters. Jim and Charlie liked them as much as I did."

The next morning Uncle took the trailer out of the yard. "Good-by, Trailer House," said Jean as it went down the street. "You made a good home for us."

"Yes," said her mother, "with the car and trailer we saw many fine things in our country. We saw some things that should be made better.

"We must each try to do what we believe is right every day. That is not all. We must work together to get more good things done for other people."



That evening they were all ready to listen to a radio talk when a bad storm came up. "We shall have to do our own talking tonight," said Uncle. "I have wanted to ask you if people took many of your things while you were on your vacation?"

"Took our things?" said Mrs. Gray. "Jean, tell Uncle John about your coat and hat."

Jean told Uncle John the story of her best coat and hat.

"We did not have a thing taken. People found our things and gave them to us more than once," said Mrs. Gray.

Mr. Gray said, "People were always ready to give us a good place for your trailer. They tried to help us take good care of it."

"Are you glad you are home tonight, Jean?" asked Mr. Gray.

"I think I am," said Jean. "I heard Mother say, 'There is no place like home' and I believe it."

"You know, Uncle," said Mr. Gray, "work is good too. I am glad to be back at work. There is not much to do now. You have done it all."

"It did me good," said Uncle John. "I know now that I am not an old man. That work was fun for me."





The next day the children went to the pool. The man said, "All those over ten years old may go in the pool." Tommy Lewis was ten; so he went into the pool. He could swim to the other side and back again.

"That is fine!" said the man. "Will you help me teach other children to swim?"

"Jean and John and Mary can all swim very well," said Tommy.

"Will you all please help?" said the man, as the children left for home.

"Mother, we can swim well enough to help the others," said John, "but Tommy can swim the best of all the children."

"That is fine!" said Mother. "When we started our vacation, you wanted to see Indians and cowboys. Jean wanted to see Uncle Charlie and an airport. You both wanted to swim."

"I wanted to see Uncle Charlie. Father wanted to see his mother. We all wanted to stay in one place long enough for Father to rest. Have we done it all?"

Jean came in while her mother was speaking. "Mother," she said, "you and Father made a good plan before we started. We knew what we wanted to do, and we did it, and we liked it all."

Things to Do

1. Tell why we can get so many good things done when we all work together.

2. Tell why we must each think about the rights of others before we do what we want to do.

3. Tell why we should be glad to help pay for those things we all need and can use together.

4. Talk with your teacher about some things we do not own together or use together.

5. Tell all the good things you can think of about the place where you live.

6. Name ways in which you can help others on the play grounds.

7. Tell why we should plan with care before we try to do things.

WORD LIST

The list below indicates the words in *Enjoying Our Land* that do not occur in the Gates-Huber-Pearson *New Work-Play Books*, Pre-primer, Primer, First Reader, or Second Reader, or in the Primer or First Reader of the *Democracy Series*.

Noun and verb forms of these words made by adding -s, -es, -ed, and -ing are omitted from this list, as are possessive forms ending in -'s or -s'. The figures refer to pages.

1	28	64	92	136
John	uncle	drove	mill	write
2	vacation	66	94	137
both	since	sick	policemen	sometimes
6	trailer	69	98	138
weed	29	nearer	sent	alone
9	can't	70	102	140
rest	48	everybody	cans	carry
10	salute	71	106	141
pay	54	gold	ago	colored
12	ate	silver	111	sing
feed	tall	72	soldier	150
15	58	above	113	cities
short	pasture	73	lake	151
17	59	seem	120	also
almost	large	74	East	152
19	love	women	123	cabins
paper	61	78	games	153
20	hope	newspaper	125	West
often	62	80	126	156
22	gas	hat	yet	visit
principal	86	86	133	170
		closer	low	North





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